

Los Angeles County Flood Control District Summary of Work on 2012 Permit Requirements DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

By ordinance, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) prohibits all non-authorized non-stormwater discharges through its MS4. The LACFCD continues to implement a program to permit authorized discharges directly into its system. Permits are required for all direct discharges and connections into LACFCD facilities. The permit requires dischargers to notify the LACFCD in advance of scheduled discharges and to implement any necessary Best Management Practices.

In March and April 2013, the LACFCD participated in two pilot studies in the Upper Rio Hondo and Upper San Gabriel River Watersheds to test notification procedures for those discharges that do not require LACFCD permits (those indirect discharges that eventually make their way into LACFCD facilities but first travel over MS4, such as streets, owned by others). The LACFCD designated an alias email address (discharge_notify@dpw.lacounty.gov) to receive the discharge notifications.

Over the course of the two pilot studies, pertinent dischargers and Permittees tested a process, based on a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and related BMP Manual, which included a volume threshold for discharges, prior notice requirements for planned/unplanned discharges, and record-keeping practices consistent with the 2012 Permit. As a result of the two pilot studies, valuable lessons were learned with respect to logistics, discharge notification timeframes, and required information for discharge notifications. While consensus is still needed in some areas and further review is required, the LACFCD will continue discussion with applicable dischargers on the MOU and associated BMP Manual.